

Environmental Science Merit Badge at Riverbend Park

Welcome to the Environmental Science Merit Badge program at Riverbend Park. The program is held at the Riverbend Visitor Center located at 8700 Potomac Hills Street in Great Falls.

Below is the recommended homework to be completed before the program:

We recommend that you download the merit badge worksheets from meritbadge.com and bring these worksheets to class. These worksheets help scouts organize their homework and classwork.

Requirement 1. Make a timeline of the history of environmental science in America. Identify the contribution made by the Boy Scouts of America to environmental science. Include dates, names of people or organizations, and important events.

Requirement 2. Define the following terms: population, community, ecosystem, biosphere, symbiosis, niche, habitat, conservation, threatened species, endangered species, extinction, pollution prevention, brownfield, ozone, watershed, airshed, non-point source, hybrid vehicle, fuel cell.

Requirement 3.f.1 or 3.f.2.

3.f.1. Look around your home and determine 10 ways your family can help reduce pollution. Make a list. Practice at least 2 of these methods for 7 days and discuss with your counselor what you have learned.

OR

3.f.2. Determine 10 ways to conserve resources or use resources more efficiently in your home or at school. Make a list. Practice at least 2 of these methods for 7 days and discuss with your counselor what you have learned.

Requirement 6. Find out about 3 career opportunities in environmental science. Pick one and find out the education, training, and experience required for this profession. Discuss this with your counselor, and explain why this profession might interest you.

What to bring to the program:

- Bring your blue card (Riverbend does not have blue cards.)
- Bring your completed homework. It is OK if you cannot complete the homework before class. You can bring completed homework in at a later date for sign-off.
- Bring/wear weather appropriate clothing/outerwear. We will not go outdoors in heavy rain or thunderstorms. Boy Scout uniform not required.
- Bring a pencil and pen.
- Bring a flashlight, if the program is held after dusk.
- We recommend that you download the merit badge worksheets from meritbadge.com and bring these worksheets to class. These worksheets help scouts organize their homework and classwork.

- Bring a snack and drink or money to purchase some at the visitor center. Bring more substantial food if your program is longer than four hours.

Homework to be completed after the program:

None.

Once the prework, class work and post homework are completed, all elements of the merit badge will be complete.

If your scout needs blue card sign-off after the class date, please call 703-759-9018 to arrange a time to meet with a merit badge counselor.

We're looking forward to working with your scout.

Riverbend's Merit Badge Counselors

Karen Sheffield, Ethan Kuhnenn, Tina Driskell, Chris Kopsick, Michelle Brannon, Marijke Gate

Karen Sheffield

Senior Interpreter, Riverbend Park

Fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend

703-759-9018

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